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PP RUEHGR
DE RUEHPU #0179 0251618
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FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2179
INFO RUEHZH/HAITI COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHBE/AMEMBASSY BELIZE PRIORITY 0172
RUEHGR/AMEMBASSY GRENADA PRIORITY 0056
RUEHKG/AMEMBASSY KINGSTON PRIORITY 1948
RUEHBH/AMEMBASSY NASSAU PRIORITY 2645
RUEHPO/AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO PRIORITY 0764
RUEHSP/AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN PRIORITY 1601
RUEHDG/AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO PRIORITY 0339
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEAWJA/DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEHUB/USINT HAVANA PRIORITY 0065
RUMIAAA/HQ USSOUTHCOM J2 MIAMI FL PRIORITY
RULSJGI/COGARD INTELCOORDCEN WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUCOWCV/CCGDSEVEN MIAMI FL//OLE/OI// PRIORITY
RUCOWCA/COMLANTAREA COGARD PORTSMOUTH VA//AO/AOFL// PRIORITY

UNCLAS PORT AU PRINCE 000179

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E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PINR](#) [SMIG](#) [HA](#)

SUBJECT: 51 HAITIAN MIGRANTS REPATRIATED JANUARY 20

¶1. (U) The U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Decisive repatriated 51 Haitian migrants (48 men, three women) January 20 to Cap Haitian after interdicting a Haitian sail freighter approximately 40 miles south of Great Inagua, Bahamas January ¶18. The migrants came from the upper Northwest peninsula of Haiti, ranging from Gonaives to Port de Paix, where the boat disembarked. The migrants had been en route to Nassau for less than a day before the U.S. Coast Guard interdicted their sailboat. They cited hunger and lack of work as reasons for attempting to flee Haiti.

¶2. (U) None of the migrants would admit to paying for the voyage nor would they identify a captain or a leader of the group. However, one migrant was taken away by port authorities immediately after arriving, suggesting that they identified him as a trafficker or smuggler. The International Office for Migration gave each migrant 300 Gourdes (7USD) which, the migrants asserted, was not sufficient for transportation home. Most of the migrants said they would try again given the opportunity, saying that the situation in Haiti was more grave than the treacherous journey abroad.
CARNEY